

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. - 11. (canceled)

12. (currently amended) A tire having a rotation timing indication hole comprising a multi-step hole defined in a tire tread, wherein

the multi-step hole includes a first step on a ~~tire~~ tread surface side and a second step located closer to a bottom side than the first step;

the first step has a contour including one of a polygon formed by straight lines and a loop-shape formed by curved lines;

the second step has a contour including the other of the polygon straight lines and the loop-shape curved lines, the contour of the second step being different from the contour of the first step and being inscribed on or included in the contour of the first step; and

the first step and the second step have depths separately representative of different degrees of wear of a ~~tire~~ tread surface until tire rotation timing.

13. (canceled)

14. (canceled)

15. (currently amended) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein ~~the contour with straight lines forms a polygon; and the contour with the loop-shape curved lines forms a rounded shape.~~

16. (previously presented) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 15, wherein

the polygon is any one of a triangle, a square, a pentagon, and a hexagon; and

the rounded shape is either one of a perfect circle and an ellipse.

17. (currently amended) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

the first step has the contour ~~with curved lines~~ including the loop-shape; and

the second step has the contour ~~with straight lines~~ including the polygon.

18. (currently amended) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in claim 12, wherein

the first step has the contour ~~with straight lines~~ including the polygon; and

the second step has the contour ~~with curved lines~~ including the loop-shape.

19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The tire having the rotation timing indication hole as set forth in any one of claims 12 and 15 to 18, wherein the rotation timing indication hole comprises twelve holes, in total, arranged in pairs in the widthwise direction of the tire, the resulting six pairs of the holes being arranged at uniform intervals in a circumferential direction of the tire.

21. (currently amended) A method for indicating rotation timing of a tire having a rotation timing indication hole provided in a tire tread, the method comprising:

forming the rotation timing indication hole with a first step on a tread surface side and a second step located on a bottom side of the first step, the first step having a contour including one of a polygon formed by straight lines and a loop-shape formed by curved lines, the second step including a contour with the other of straight lines the polygon and curved lines the loop-shape, the contour of the second step being different from the contour of the first step and being inscribed on or included in the contour of the first step;

indicating a first tire rotation timing by a change in the contour at a tread surface from the contour of the first step to the contour of the second step; and

indicating a second tire rotation timing by disappearance of the contour of the second step at the tread surface.

22. (canceled)